

ALADDIN OR
THE
WONDERFUL
LAMP



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THE
BANBURY CROSS
SERIES

PREPARED FOR CHILDREN BY GRACE RHYS

ALADDIN,
OR THE WONDERFUL LAMP.



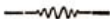
ALADDIN: OR THE
WONDERFUL LAMP.

ILLUSTRATED BY
SIDNEY. H.
HEATH



LONDON
PUBLISHED BY
J. M. DENT & CO.
AT ALDINE HOUSE
IN G^T EASTERN ST. 1895

To Leila and Nora.



IF I had the Lamp of Aladdin of old,
I would bind my book in silver and
gold,
And tie its leaves with a silken string !
But now I think on 't, I do not need it ;
For, Leila and Nora, as you open and
read it,
Did you ever see a prettier thing ?

G. R.



Aladdin, or The Wonderful Lamp.



A LADDIN was the son of Mustapha, a poor tailor in one of the rich provinces of China. When the boy was old enough to learn a trade, his father took him into his own workshop. But Aladdin, being but an idle fellow, loved play more than work, and spent his days in playing in the public streets with other boys as idle as himself.

His father died while he was yet very young; but he still continued his foolish ways, and his mother was forced to spin



cotton night and day in order to keep herself and him.

When he was about fifteen years old, he was one day playing in the streets with some of his companions. A stranger who was going by stopped and looked at him. This stranger was a famous African Magician, who, having need of the help of some ignorant person, no sooner beheld Aladdin than he knew by his whole air, manner, and appearance, that he was a person of small prudence, and very fit to be made a tool of. The magician then artfully inquired of some persons standing near the name and character of Aladdin, and the answers proved to him that he had judged rightly of the boy.



The stranger, now pressing in among the crowd of lads, clapped his hand on Aladdin's shoulder, and said, "My good lad, art thou not the son of Mustapha, the tailor?"

"Yes, sir," said Aladdin, "but my father has been dead this long time."

"Alas!" cried he, "what unhappy news! I am thy father's brother, child. I have been many years abroad; and now that I have come home in the hope of seeing him, you tell me he is dead!"

And all the while tears ran down the stranger's cheek and his bosom heaved with sighs. Then pulling out a purse he gave Aladdin two pieces of gold: "Take this, my boy," says he, "to your mother. Tell her that I will come and see her to-night, and sup with her."

Pleased with the money, Aladdin ran home to his mother. "Mother," said he, "have I an uncle?" His mother told him he had not, whereupon Aladdin pulled out his gold and told her that a man who said he was his father's brother was coming to sup with her that very evening. Full of bewilderment the good woman set out for the market, where she bought provisions, and was busy preparing the supper when the magician knocked at the door. He entered, followed by a porter bringing all kinds of delicious fruits and sweetmeats for the dessert, and several bottles of wine.

After the magician had given what he had brought into Aladdin's hands, he saluted his mother, and asked to be shown the place where his brother Mustapha had been wont to sit; and when she had done so, he fell down and kissed it several times, saying, with tears in eyes, "My poor brother, how unhappy am I not to

have come soon enough to give you a last embrace!"

As soon as they were set down to supper, he gave Aladdin's mother an account of his travels, saying that for forty years he had been from home, in order to see the wonders of distant countries. Then turning towards Aladdin, he asked his name; "I am called Aladdin," said he. "Well, Aladdin," replied the magician, "what business do you follow? Are you of any trade?"

At this question Aladdin hung down his head, and was not a little abashed when his mother made answer, "Aladdin is an idle fellow; his father strove all he could to teach him his trade, but could not succeed; and since his death, in spite of all I can say to him, he does nothing but idle away his time in the streets, so that I despair of his ever coming to any good." With these words the poor woman burst into tears, and the magician, turning to Aladdin, said: "This is not well, nephew; you must think of helping yourself and getting your livelihood, and I will help you as far as I may; what think you, shall I take a shop and furnish it for you?" Aladdin was overjoyed at the idea, for he thought there was very little labour

in keeping a shop, and he told his uncle this would suit him better than anything else.

“I will take you with me to-morrow,” said the magician, “clothe you as handsomely as the best merchants in the city, and then we will open a shop.”

Aladdin's mother thanked him very heartily and begged Aladdin to behave so as to prove himself worthy of the good fortune promised by his kind uncle.

Next day the stranger called for Aladdin as he had promised, and led him to a merchant's, where ready-made clothes, suited for all sorts of people were sold. Then he caused Aladdin to try on the handsomest suits, and choosing the one Aladdin also preferred, he paid the merchant for it at once. The pretended uncle then took Aladdin to visit the bazaars and the khans where the foreign merchants were and the most splendid mosques, and gave him a merry feast in the evening.

When Aladdin's mother saw him return so handsomely dressed and with such fine tales of the company he had been in, she was full of joy. “Generous brother,” she cried to the magician, “I know not how to thank you enough for your good-



ness; may you live many happy years to see my son's gratitude!”

“Aladdin,” replied he, “is a good boy. He seems to pay attention to what I say. I have no doubt but we shall make him what we wish. I am sorry for one thing, that I cannot hire the shop for Aladdin to-morrow, as it is Friday, and all the merchants will be absent. We will, however, settle all this business on Saturday; and I will come here to-morrow to take Aladdin and show him the public gardens outside the town.

The next morning Aladdin got up and dressed himself very early, so impatient was he to see his uncle. Presently he saw him coming, and ran to meet him. The magician greeted him very kindly; “Come, my good boy,” he said with a smile; “I will to-day show you some very fine things.”



He then led him through some beautiful gardens with great houses standing in the midst of them; Aladdin did nothing but exclaim at their beauty, and so his uncle, by degrees led him on farther and farther in the country. Presently, seeing that Aladdin was tired, he bade him sit in one of these gardens by the side of a great basin of pure water, and taking from a piece of linen cloth that was attached to his girdle,

some cake and fruits, he told the boy to eat of them and gave him much good advice the while.

Then beguiling the way by kindness and pleasant talk he induced Aladdin to come with him much further, and they walked on till they came to a narrow valley with mountains on all sides.

This was the spot that the magician had all along wanted to reach, and to which he had brought Aladdin for a secret purpose of his own.

"We shall now," said he to Aladdin, "go no farther, and I shall here shew you some extraordinary wonders, that no one besides yourself will ever have seen. I am now going to strike a light, and do you, in the meantime, collect all the dry sticks and leaves that you can find, in order to make a fire."

There were so many pieces of dry sticks scattered about this place, that Aladdin very soon collected more than enough, by the time the magician had lighted his match. He then set them on fire, and as soon as they were in a blaze, he threw a certain perfume that he had ready in his hand upon them. A dense smoke rose up, while the magician



spoke some mysterious words. At the same instant the ground slightly shook, and opening in the spot where they stood, showed a square stone of about a foot and a half across, with a brass ring fixed in the centre.

Aladdin was frightened out of his wits, and was about to run away, when the African suddenly gave him a box on the ear so violent as to beat him down and very nearly to knock some of his teeth out. Poor Aladdin, with tears in



his eyes and trembling in every limb, got up. "My dear uncle," he cried, "what have I done to deserve so severe a blow?" "I have good reasons for it," replied the magician. "Do you but obey me, and you will not repent of it. Underneath that stone is a great hidden treasure, which will make you richer than many kings if you will be docile and attentive to what I shall say to you."

Aladdin had now got the better of his fright. "Well," said he, "what must

I do? Tell me; I am ready to obey you in everything!" "Well said!" replied the magician; "come to me then; take hold of this ring, and lift up the stone."

To Aladdin's surprise, the stone was raised without any trouble, and then he could see a small opening between three and four feet deep, at the bottom of which was a little door, with steps to go down still lower. "You must now," said the magician, "go down into this cavern, and when you have come to the bottom of the steps, you will see an open door which leads into three great halls. In each of these you will see, on both sides of you, four bronze vases as large as tubs, full of gold and silver, but you must take particular care not to touch any of it. When you get in the first hall, take up your robe and bind it round you. Then go on the second without stopping, and from thence in the same manner to the third. Above all, mind and be very particular not to go near the walls nor even to touch them with your robe; for if any part of your dress should chance to touch them, your instant death will be the consequence. At the far end of the third, there is a

door which leads to a garden planted with beautiful trees, all of which are full of fruit. Go on straight forward, and follow a path which you will see, and which will bring you to the bottom of a flight of fifty steps, at the top of which there is a terrace. When you shall have reached the terrace, you will see a niche before you, in which there is a lighted lamp. Take the lamp and extinguish it. Then throw out the wick and the liquid that is within, and put it in your bosom. When you have done this, bring it to me. Do not be afraid of staining your dress, as what is within the lamp is not oil; and when you have thrown it out, the lamp will dry directly. If you should wish very much to gather any of the fruit in the garden, you may do so; and there is nothing to prevent your taking as much as you please."

When the magician had given these directions to Aladdin, he took off a ring which he had on one of his fingers, and put it on his pretended nephew, telling him, at the same time, that it was to secure him against every evil that might otherwise happen to him; and again bade him be mindful of everything he had said to him. "Go, my child,"

added he, "descend boldly ; we shall now both of us become immensely rich for the rest of our lives."

Aladdin gave a spring, jumped into the opening with a willing mind, and went down to the bottom of the steps. He found the three halls exactly as the magician had said. He passed through them with the greatest care, as he was fearful he might be killed if he were careless. He went on to the garden, and mounted to the terrace without stopping. He took the lamp, as it stood lighted in the niche, threw out its contents, and, observing that it was as the magician had said, quite dry, he put it into his bosom. He then came down the terrace and stopped in the garden to look at the fruit, which he had only seen for an instant as he passed along. The trees of this garden were all full of the most extraordinary fruit. Each tree bore fruits of a different colour. Some were white, others sparkling and transparent, like crystal ; some were red and of different shades, others green, blue, violet ; some of a yellowish hue, in short, of almost every colour. The white were pearls ; the sparkling and transparent were diamonds ; the deep



red were rubies ; the paler, a particular sort of ruby called balass ; the green, emeralds : the blue, turquoises ; the violet, amethysts ; those tinged with yellow, sapphires ; in the same way, all the other coloured fruits were varieties of precious stones ; and the whole of them were of the largest size, and more perfect than were ever seen in the whole world. Aladdin was not yet of an age to know their value, and thought they were all only pieces of coloured glass. The variety, however, and contrast of

so many beautiful colours, as well as the brilliancy and extraordinary size of each sort, nevertheless tempted him to gather some of each; and he took so many of every colour that he filled both his pockets, as well as his two new purses that the magician had bought for him, at the time he made him a present of his new dress; and as his pockets, which were already full, could not hold his two purses, he fastened them on each side of his girdle, or sash, and also wrapped some in its folds, as it was of silk, and made very full. In this manner he carried them so that they could not fall out. He did not even forget to fill his bosom quite full, between his robe and shirt.

Laden in this manner with the most immense treasure, though ignorant of its value, Aladdin made haste through the three halls, in order that he might not make the African magician wait too long. Having passed through them with the same caution as before, he began to ascend the steps he had come down, and reached the entrance of the cave, where the magician was impatiently waiting for him. As soon as Aladdin perceived him he called out, "Give me your hand,

uncle, to help me up." "You had better, my dear boy," replied the magician, "first give me the lamp, as that will only hinder you." "It is not at all in my way," said Aladdin, "and I will give it you when I am out." The magician still persevered in wishing to get the lamp before he helped Aladdin out of the cave; but the latter had in fact so covered it with the fruit of the trees, that he absolutely refused to give it till he had got out of the cave. The African magician was then in the greatest despair at the obstinate resistance the boy made, and fell into the most violent rage. He then threw a little perfume upon the fire, which he had taken care to keep up, and he had hardly pronounced two magic words, before the stone, which served to shut up the entrance to the cavern, returned of its own accord to the place, with all the earth over it, exactly in the same state as it was when the magician and Aladdin first arrived there.

Aladdin, who was far from expecting this wicked action from his pretended uncle, after all his kindness and generosity, was more horrified and astonished than may be told. When he found himself as it were buried alive, he called



aloud a thousand times to his uncle, telling him he was ready to give him the lamp. But all his cries were useless, and having no other means of making himself heard, he remained in perfect darkness. His tears having at length ceased, he went down to the bottom of the flight of stairs, intending to go toward the light in the garden, where he had before been. But the walls, which had been opened by enchantment, were now shut by the same means. He felt all around him to the right and left several times, but could not discover the least opening. He then redoubled his cries and tears, sat down upon the step of his dungeon, without

the least ray of hope ever again to see the light of day, and only too certain that here must be the end of him.

Aladdin remained two days in this state, without either eating or drinking. On the third day, feeling his death was near, he lifted up his hands, and joining them, as in the act of prayer, he said in a loud tone of voice, "There is no strength or power but in the high and great God." In this action of joining his hands, he happened, without thinking of it, to rub the ring which the African magician had put upon his finger, and of the virtue of which he was as yet ignorant. Upon its being thus rubbed, a Genius of a most enormous figure, and a most horrid countenance, instantly rose as it were out of the earth before him; he was so tall, that his head touched the vaulted roof, and he addressed these words to Aladdin: "What do you wish? I am ready to obey you as your slave; as the slave of him who has the ring on his finger, both I and the other slaves of the ring." Weak and terrified, and scarcely daring to hope, Aladdin cried, "Whoever you are, take me, if you are able, out of this place!" Scarcely had he said it, when he found himself at the outside of the cave, at the





very spot where the magician had left him. Scarcely daring to believe his good fortune, he rose up trembling, and seeing the city lying at some distance, made his way back by the same road he had come. A long weary road he found it to his mother's door, and when he reached it, he was fainting from hunger and fatigue.

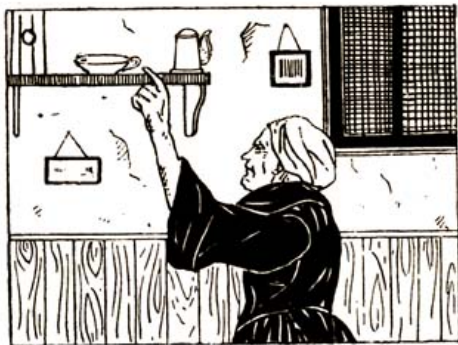
His mother, however, whose heart had been almost broken by the loss of him, received him kindly and joyfully, and refreshed him with food and wine. When he was better again, he told his mother all, as it had come about, and showed her the lamp and the coloured fruits and the wonderful ring on his finger. His mother, however, thought

little of the jewels, as she was quite ignorant of their value, so Aladdin put them all behind one of the cushions of the sofa on which they were sitting. She, however, felt the greatest horror at the wickedness of the magician, and she and Aladdin went to rest filled with thankfulness at his fortunate escape.

Next morning, when Aladdin awoke, his first thought was that he was very hungry, and would like some breakfast. "Alas, my child," replied his mother, "I have not a morsel of bread to give you. You ate last night all the trifling remains of food in the house. Have, however, a little patience, and it shall not be long before I will bring you some. I have a little cotton of my own spinning, I will go and sell it, and buy something for our dinner."

"Keep your cotton, mother," said Aladdin, "for another time, and give me the lamp which I brought with me yesterday. I will go and sell that, and the money it will fetch will serve us for breakfast and dinner too, nay, perhaps also for supper."

Aladdin's mother took the lamp from the place she had put it in. "Here it is," she said to her son, "but it is,



I think, very dirty; if I were to clean it a little, perhaps it might sell for something more." She then took some water and a little fine sand to clean it with. But she had scarcely begun to rub this lamp, when instantly, and while her son was present, a hideous and gigantic genius rose out of the ground before her, and cried with a voice as loud as thunder, "What do you wish? I am ready to obey you as your slave, and the slave of those who have the lamp in their hands, both I and the other slaves of the lamp." The mother of Aladdin was too much terrified to speak, but Aladdin, who had once before seen a similar appearance in the cavern, did not either lose his presence of mind



or his judgment. Seizing the lamp, he answered in a firm tone of voice, "I am hungry, bring me something to eat." The genius disappeared, and returned a moment after with a large silver basin, which he carried on his head, and twelve covered dishes of the same material filled with the nicest meats, properly arranged, and six loaves as white as snow upon as many plates; two bottles of the most excellent wine, and two silver cups in his hand. He placed them all upon the table and instantly vanished.

When Aladdin's mother had recovered from her fright, they both sat down to their meal in the greatest delight imaginable, for never before had they eaten such delicate meats or seen such splendid dishes.

The remains of this feast provided them with food for some days, and when it was all gone Aladdin sold the silver dishes one by one for their support. In this way they lived happily for some years, for Aladdin had been sobered by his adventure, and now behaved with the greatest wisdom and prudence. He took care to visit the principal shops and public places, speaking only with wise and prudent persons, and in this way he gathered much wisdom, and grew to be a courteous and handsome youth besides.

One day, as he was walking in the city, Aladdin heard a proclamation of the Sultan, ordering all persons to shut up their shops and retire into their houses until the Princess Badroulbador, the daughter of the Sultan, had passed by on her way to the bath, and had again returned.

Aladdin being hurried along by the crowd of people hastening to their homes, found himself in the doorway of a large building which he guessed to be the baths where the princess was expected.

He at once placed himself behind the door, where he was certain not to be seen, and where he might espy the princess as she passed.





He had long to wait before she came, with a great crowd of her attendants with her, and as she passed, she threw aside her veil, so that Aladdin was dazzled by her beauty. She was indeed the most beautiful princess ever seen, and Aladdin fell in love with her at once.

When at last, after long thinking, Aladdin made up his mind to tell his mother of his love for the Princess Badroulbador, she fell a-laughing.

"Alas, my son," she cried, "what are

you thinking of? You must surely have lost your senses to talk thus."

"Mother," replied Aladdin, "I do assure you I have not lost my senses; I am perfectly in my right mind. I foresaw very well that you would think me a fool for my pains, but whatever you may say, nothing will prevent me from asking the Princess Badroulbador of the Sultan her father, in marriage.

"Truly, my son," said his mother, "you seem to have forgotten that your father was but a poor tailor; and indeed, I do not know who will dare to go and speak to the Sultan about it." "You yourself must," said he decidedly. "I!" cried his mother in the greatest surprise, "I go to the Sultan! Not I indeed; I will take care how I am joined to such folly. You know very well that no one can make any demand of the Sultan without bringing a rich present, and where shall such poor folk as we, find such an one?"

Thereupon Aladdin told his mother that while talking with the merchants in the bazaar he had learned to know the value of their gems, and for a long time he had known that nothing which they had in their shops was half so fine as



those jewels he had brought home from the enchanted cave. So his mother fetched them from the drawer where they had long lain hid, and together they arranged them in a dish of fine porcelain. Both mother and son were dazzled by the splendid sparkling and glancing of the gems and their brilliant colours, and Aladdin's mother, now sure that her son's present was one that could not fail to please the Sultan, at last agreed to do everything as her son wished. She took the porcelain dish, in which the present of jewels was, and folded it up in a very fine linen cloth. She then took another less fine, and tied the four corners of it together, that she might carry it with less trouble. She afterwards set out, to



the great joy of Aladdin, and took the road towards the palace of the Sultan. The Grand Vizier, accompanied by the other viziers and proper officers of the court, had already gone in before she arrived at the gate. The crowd made by those who had business at the divan was very great. The doors were opened, and she went into the divan with the rest. It formed a most beautiful saloon, very large and spacious, with a grand and magnificent entrance. She stopped, and placed herself so that she was opposite the Sultan, the grand vizier, and other officers, who formed the council on both sides.

After the various causes had been heard, the Sultan and his court retired, without anyone's having taken the slightest notice of Aladdin's mother. Day after day, the good woman went back, until at last her patience and perseverance touched the Sultan's heart and he sent for her to hear what was her business.

Trembling, Aladdin's mother told him of her son's boldness, and begged the mercy of the Sultan for him and for herself. The Sultan heard her kindly, then before giving any answer to her request, he asked her what she had with



her so carefully tied up in a linen cloth. Aladdin's mother unfolded the cloths, and humbly laid the sparkling jewels before him. It is impossible to express the surprise and astonishment which this monarch felt when he saw collected together in that dish such a quantity of the most precious, perfect, and brilliant jewels, the size of which was greater than any he had before seen. For some moments he gazed at them speechless. When, however, he began to recollect himself, he took the present from the hand of Aladdin's mother, and exclaimed in a transport of joy, "Ah! how very beautiful, how extremely rich!"

Then turning to his grand vizier, he

showed him the gems and talked privately to him for some minutes. Then to Aladdin's mother he said, "My good woman, I will indeed make your son happy by marrying him to the princess my daughter, as soon as he shall send me forty large basins of massive gold, quite full of the same sort of things which you have already presented me with from him, brought by an equal number of black slaves, each of whom shall be led by a white slave, young, well-made, handsome, and richly-dressed. These are the conditions upon which I am ready to bestow upon him the Princess my daughter. Go, my good woman, and I will wait till you bring me his answer."

Full of disappointment, Aladdin's mother made her way home, and told her son the news of the Sultan's strange wish. But Aladdin only smiled, and when his mother had gone out, he took the lamp and rubbed it, when the Genius instantly appeared and Aladdin commanded him to lose no time in bringing the present which the Sultan had wished for. The Genius only said that his commands should be at once obeyed, and then disappeared.

In a very short time the Genius returned

with forty black slaves, each carrying upon his head a large golden basin of great weight, full of pearls, diamonds, rubies, and emeralds, quite as fine as the others. Each basin was covered with a cloth of silver, embroidered with flowers of gold. All these slaves with their golden basins, together with the white ones, entirely filled the house, which was but small, as well as the court in front and a garden behind it.

Aladdin's mother now came back and had almost fainted when she saw this great crowd and all its magnificence, but Aladdin desired her at once to follow the procession of slaves to the palace, and present to the Sultan the dowry of the Princess.

No sooner had the first slave turned into the street than all the passers-by ran to look, and by the time the whole procession was on its way, the crowds were so great that every one must needs stop in the place where he happened to be.

When the first of the eighty slaves arrived at the gate of the first court of the palace, the porters were in the greatest haste, as soon as they perceived this astonishing procession approaching, to open it, as they took the first for

a king, so richly and magnificently was he dressed.

As the sultan had been informed of the march and arrival of these slaves, he had given orders to have them admitted. As soon, therefore, as they presented themselves before it, they found the door of the divan open. They entered in regular order, one part going to the right, and the other to the left. After they were all within the hall, and had formed a large semicircle before the throne of the Sultan, each of the black slaves placed the basin which he carried upon the carpet. They then all prostrated themselves so low, that their foreheads touched the ground. The white slaves also, at the same time, performed the same ceremony. They then all got up, and in doing so, the black slaves skilfully uncovered the basins which were before them, and then remained standing with their hands crossed upon their breasts.

The astonishment of the sultan at the sight of all these riches and splendour is hardly to be imagined. After gazing upon the slaves with their shining heaps of jewels, he said to Aladdin's mother, "Go, my good woman, and tell your

son that I am waiting with open arms to receive and embrace him!"

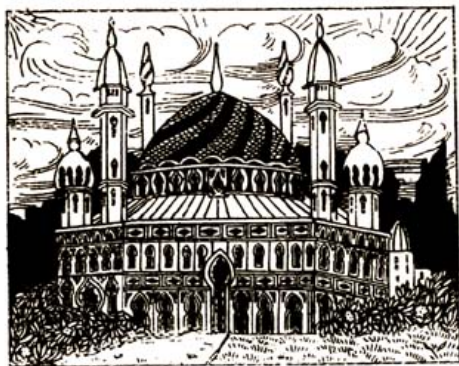
Aladdin was so delighted with this news that he could hardly answer his mother, and hastening to his chamber, he shut the door, and having summoned the Genius, commanded him to take him instantly to a bath. When he had been bathed and perfumed by invisible hands he was dressed in garments that shone like the sun, and the Genius brought him moreover a splendid charger and twenty slaves to march on either side of him on the way to the Sultan's palace, all holding purses of gold to scatter among the people.

If there had been a crowd before there was ten times as great a one now to watch Aladdin as he rode to the Sultan's palace, and to pick up the gold pieces which were showered by his slaves as he went. The Sultan came down from his throne to greet him and all was feasting and joy in the palace. After supper the judge was ordered to draw up a contract of marriage between Aladdin and the Princess Babroulbador. When this was done, the Sultan asked Aladdin if he wished to remain in the palace, and conclude all the ceremonies



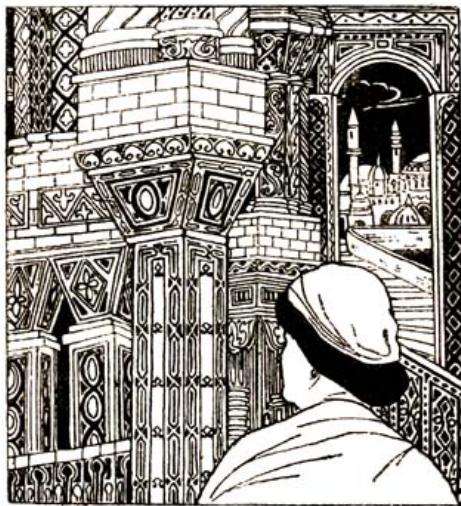
that day. "Sire," he replied, "however impatient I may be to have entire possession of all your majesty's bounties, I beg you to permit me to wait until I shall have built a palace to receive the Princess in, that shall be even worthy of her: and for this purpose, I request that you will have the goodness to point out a suitable place for it near your own, that I may always be ready to pay my court to your majesty. I will then neglect nothing to get it finished with all possible diligence." "My son," answered the Sultan, "take whatever spot you think proper. There is a large open space before my palace, and I have thought for some time about filling it up; but remember that, to have my happiness complete, I cannot see you united too soon to my daughter." Having said this, he again embraced Aladdin, who now took leave of the Sultan in as polished a manner as if he had been brought up and spent all his life at court.

As soon as Aladdin was got home, he lost no time in again summoning the Genius; he commanded him to build instantly the most gorgeous palace ever seen on the spot of ground given by the Sultan.



Early the next morning the Genius appeared; "Sir," said he, "your palace is finished, come and see if it is as you wish." Then in a moment Aladdin found himself transported thither; he found it far more beautiful than even he had hoped for, and perfect in every part. "Genius," said Aladdin, "there is one thing left to be wished for; and that is to have a carpet of the finest velvet, laid from the Sultan's gate up to this door, for the Princess to walk upon." And in a moment it was done.

Words cannot paint the astonishment of the Sultan and all his household at seeing this gorgeous palace shining in



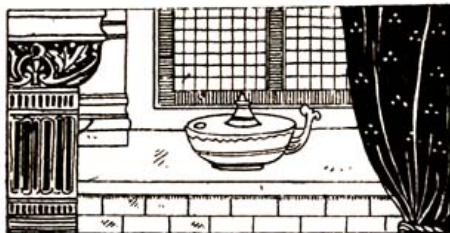
the place which they had been used to see empty and bare. The Princess was rejoiced at the sight, and her marriage with Aladdin was held the same day, and their happiness was the greatest possible.

For some months they lived thus, Aladdin showing great kindness to the poor of the city, and pleasing all by his generosity. But there was soon to be an end of it.



Aladdin had become very fond of hunting, and there was not a week that he did not go out to follow the chase, sometimes a long distance from the city.

About this time his old enemy, the African magician, found out by some of his magic arts that Aladdin was enormously rich and much beloved and respected, instead of being, as he had supposed, dead in the enchanted cave. He was filled with rage, and vowing to destroy Aladdin, he immediately set out for China. On arriving there



he went to one of the principal khans and there began talking about Aladdin and the wonders of his palace. In this way he learned that Aladdin was gone a-hunting, and was not expected home for three or four days.

The magician took his measures accordingly, and having bought a dozen of shining new lamps, he put them in a basket, and then set out for Aladdin's palace. On getting near it, he bawled out, "Who will change old lamps for new ones?" This brought a crowd of people and children hooting and laughing round him, for they all thought he was mad to give his new lamps for old.

However he still went on with his cry, till he came under the Princess's windows, when all the slaves attending on her ran laughing to look into the



street. "Oh!" said one of the slaves, "come, let us try if the old fool means what he says; there is an ugly old lamp lying in the cornice of the hall with twenty-four windows; we will put a new one in its place, if the old fellow is really in earnest." The Princess having given leave, away ran one of the slaves with the lamp to the magician, who willingly gave her the best he had among his new ones, and retired to enjoy the triumph of his revenge.

As soon as night arrived, he summoned the Genius of the lamp and commanded him to transport him, the palace, and the Princess, to the remotest corner of Africa. The order was instantly obeyed.



The confusion and grief of the Sultan were terrible when he found the palace vanished and his daughter lost. The people ran in fear through the streets, and the soldiers were sent in search of Aladdin, who was not yet returned from hunting.

Aladdin was soon met with and dragged before the Sultan like a criminal; he would have been beheaded, had not the Sultan been afraid to enrage the



people by whom he was much loved. "Go, wretch!" cried the Sultan, "I grant thee thy life; but if ever thou appearest before me again death shall overtake thee, unless in forty days thou bringest me tidings of my daughter."

Aladdin, wretched and down-fallen, left the palace, not knowing whither to turn his steps. At length he stopped at a brook to bathe his eyes, that smarted with the tears he had shed; as he stooped, his foot slipped, and catching hold of a piece of rock to save himself from falling, he pressed the magician's ring which he still wore on his finger; and the Genius of the ring appeared before him, saying, "What wouldst thou have?"—"Oh powerful Genius," cried Aladdin, "bring my palace back to the place where yesterday it stood!"



"What you command," replied the Genius, "is not in my power: you must address yourself to the Genius of the lamp for that service."

"Then I command thee," said Aladdin, "to transport me to the place where now it stands." Instantly Aladdin found himself beside his own palace, which stood in a meadow not far from a strange city; and the Princess Badroulbador was then walking in her own chamber, weeping for his loss. Happening to come near to the window, she saw Aladdin under it, and making a sign to him to keep silence, she sent a slave to bring him in by a private door. The Princess and her husband having kissed



each other, and shed many tears, Aladdin said, "Tell me, my Princess, what has become of an old lamp which I left on the cornice of the hall of four-and-twenty windows?"

The Princess then told how her slave had exchanged it for a new one, and said that the tyrant in whose power she was, always carried that very lamp in his bosom. Aladdin was then sure that this person was no other than his old



enemy, the African magician, who having brought about his downfall, was now striving to induce the Princess to forget Aladdin and marry him.

After talking a long while, they hit upon a plan for getting back the lamp. Aladdin went into the city in the disguise of a slave, where he bought a powder that on being swallowed should instantly cause death; then the Princess invited the magician to sup with her. As she had never been so polite to him before, he was quite delighted with her kindness; and while they were at table, she ordered a slave to bring two cups of wine which she had herself prepared by mixing in the powder, and after pretending to taste the one she



held in her hand, she asked the magician to change cups, as was the custom, she said, between lovers in China. He joyfully seized the goblet, and drinking it all at a draught, fell senseless on the floor.

Aladdin was at hand to snatch the lamp from his bosom and hastily rubbing it, he summoned the Genius, who instantly transported the palace and all it contained back to the place whence they had come.

Some hours after, the Sultan who had risen at break of day to give way to his grief, went to the window to look at the spot which he expected to see empty and vacant, and then to his unspeakable joy, he saw Aladdin's palace shining in its place. He summoned his guards and



hastened to embrace his daughter; and during a whole week nothing was to be heard but the sound of drums, trumpets, cymbals, and all kinds of music and feasting, in honour of Aladdin's return with the Princess.

Some time after this, the Sultan died, and Aladdin and the Princess Badroulbador ascended the throne. They reigned together many years and left many noble sons and daughters at their death.



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The End.

